

## **Community Benefits FY2017 Reporting**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Have there been any updates to the AGO's Guidelines for FY2017 reporting?**

Reporting for FY2017 is governed by the [2009 Guidelines](#) and is intended to be consistent with past years and includes a few additional **optional** elements that correspond to updates that will be part of standard reporting beginning in future. These elements are: (1) optional upload of the hospital's Implementation Strategy; (2) tags to allow filers to associate a Community Benefits program with a Determination of Need Health Priority and/or EOHHS Focus Issue; and (3) an opportunity to provide a brief narrative on how filers are leveraging their role as employers, purchasers, investors, and anchor institutions in their communities to advance their Community Benefits mission.

#### **There are two sets of Guidelines available on the AGO website- which set of Guidelines should I consult for FY2017 reporting?**

The 2009 Guidelines are effective for FY2017 reporting. The updated Guidelines are fully effective starting in Hospital fiscal year 2019, with a transition period to include an interim launch in fiscal year 2018 for those elements that can be appropriately introduced at that time. The AGO anticipates working closely with filers throughout the transition. The 2018 Guidelines are available now to help filers plan for FY2019 programs and reports.

#### **Does the Attorney General's Office provide extensions for reporting?**

In order to ensure review and publication on the AGO website on schedule, Hospital Community Benefits Reports must be filed by April 2, and HMO Community Benefits Reports must be filed by June 1.

#### **How do we report problems or system errors that may occur when we try to file our report on the AGO's website?**

If you encounter problems filing your report, please contact the Attorney General's Office at [CBAdmin@state.ma.us](mailto:CBAdmin@state.ma.us).

#### **Can revisions be made to a Community Benefits Report after it has been filed?**

Yes. Revisions can be made by contacting the AGO. If errors are identified after a Community Benefits Report has been submitted, please contact the Attorney General's Office at [CBAdmin@state.ma.us](mailto:CBAdmin@state.ma.us) as soon as possible.